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The Top 10 Mistakes People Make When Buying a Front Load Washing Machine **AND How to Avoid Them!**

1 Thinking the amount of money spent will cure your selection problems.

It's the most expensive, so it's the best!

The best what?

The best machine for you and the best machine for someone else are two very different machines. You want a machine that will do the job you need it to do and believe it or not, many times it may cost less than the most expensive machine out there! On occasion you will need to adjust your budget a little higher to get the correct machine for your needs, but compared to the inconvenience of getting the wrong machine, that small adjustment will be worth it in the long run.

If you need an option, look for it. If you don't need an option, and can find one without it that costs less, then don't pay for it!

2 Consumer Reports rated it really high!

They did this test, and that test, and...

Even though it is true that Consumer Reports has rated the machine you are considering very highly, they do so with a certain set of criteria. That criteria isn't necessarily with the end user (you) in mind.

Yes, the machine did perform well in all of the tests and requirements the testing firm put it through. Yes, it was rated high. Yes, they made the results known, and yes, the manufacturer was pleased with the results.

You on the other hand are unique. You have a lifestyle... a home... a family... and or an occupation that was not necessarily a consideration for some of these tests. If everyone was the same, then there would be no need for this information.

3 Choosing the color or appearance over options.

It's pretty and goes with my décor.

Lets face it, pretty sells. You don't want to get trapped into a machine that looks good, but doesn't do what you need it to do. If the machine meets your needs and you like the way it looks, great! Keep in mind that these machines will get dirty, after all they were meant to clean. Some machine surfaces, like stainless steel for example shouldn't be wiped down with ammonia based cleaners. Find out what you have to do to care for them! If you don't like the extra effort it takes to keep the machines differing finishes and colors sparkling, you may want to keep this in mind when deciding which machine to buy.

4 Choosing a machine you think won't need any user input from you.

I don't have to do anything but push the button and walk away,
the salesman said it'll do everything but make breakfast!

Folks, we haven't achieved the "Star Trek" Holodeck, beaming ability or robot technology at this point, so like it or not you will have to learn how to use the machine. *"Set it and forget it,"* won't happen. There will be times when your washing needs between loads will be very similar and changing the setting will not be necessary, but if the salesperson says "Set it and forget it" – walk away fast!

Also when it comes to repairs, this is something you will need to consider, the more complex the machine, the greater the possibility of a user misconception or malfunction, and this subject is covered in depth in the Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook.

5 Not considering your items that need washing.

It can hold a lot of clothes and I can wash anything.

There are some items you shouldn't wash in a front load washer such as; impermeable or water proof items like rain coats (they will be destroyed), with rubber backed rugs being the worst offender. Always refer to the clothing tags for washing Instructions! *A bonus international laundry symbol key is included in the Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook.*

Rubber backed rugs are impermeable so they don't let water pass through them. A front loader spins out at such high speeds that it will literally tear the rubber off the back of the rug ruining it and causing a train wreck for the machine.

I explain how to fix the machine in the tool kit, but for now be aware that if you need to wash rubber backed rugs and raincoats, a front load washer may not be the best fit for you.

6 Thinking gadgets and options makes the machine better.

Look at all the buttons! I'll be the envy of the neighborhood!

As Henry Ford once said of the Model T automobile, *"you can have it in any color you want. As long as it's black!"* Options can be the biggest headache when it comes to choosing a washing machine. Many people become "overloaded" with information and there in lays one of the pitfalls.

You have to be clear on what options you need and what options you don't before you're standing in front of the display! Know what questions to ask yourself, before you go shopping and what to ask the sales person while you're looking. Think about your occupation, hobbies, kind of clothing, home, number of people using the washer and their occupations, hobbies etc. In the Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook, there is a worksheet to help you in determining you and your family's needs as it pertains to a washing machine.

7 Listening to rumors and avoiding a model because of hearsay.

My cousin's best friend's mom had one of those and it stinks!

Yes, front load washers will stink, IF you don't know how to care for it! The old adage ***"an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,"*** rings way too true in this case! Front loaders require a little more effort and simple maintenance to avoid the musty smell that **All** (front and top load) washing machines can get. It's just that due to the way the front loader does its job, it's more susceptible to this problem.

So if you have a front loader, and have the musty smell, there is hope, but you're going to have to put forth a little more effort than you would've had to with a top loader, to avoid the problem in the first place.

I have an effective four step procedure in the Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook to help you eliminate mold (which is what causes the smell) and provide tips for how to avoid having it build up at all.

8 Not considering the physical construction or requirements of the machine.

It'll even fit in the closet!

Everything man made... **Will** break down! So you'll want to think carefully about the location where you're going to put the machine! The Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook, was designed to help you the user, make your investment in the equipment last as long as possible but let's face it, anything you buy, with the exception of a rock, (why would you buy a rock?) will need maintenance.

I've been in some very beautiful homes to service equipment, and wanted to tear my hair out when I saw the closet the machine was squished into, or the fixed counter top it was stuck firmly beneath (a technicians nightmare).

It's very important to be able to access the machine for service. If it's not easily accessible, you could be facing higher repair labor costs. So when you are choosing your machine think about where it's going to go and how accessible it will be for service.

9 Thinking all machines are alike.

It's a washing machine, so whats the big deal?

Federal laws have forced technology to change the landscape when it comes to how a washing machine works. Energy efficiency is a mandate along with water consumption. Front load washing machines have always been water misers, so that hasn't been as big an issue. As far as energy consumption goes, nobody's exempt.

Most machines now have to be "Energy Star" compliant and that's where some manufacturers have had to get creative. For example, several machines when the water temperature dial says, "Hot/Cold" are not giving you a hot wash, cold rinse. If it doesn't say somewhere on the front of the machine "Wash/Rinse," or "wash temperature," it's a mix which means you will never get more than seventy to ninety degrees of hot water in the fill. This is how they can say the machine consumes less energy.

Check the user manual very carefully to make sure you are getting Hot wash, Cold rinse! If you don't think people get steamed (pardon the pun) over this one, you haven't had to be the one to bring it to their attention!

10 Not doing any research before buying one.

I just want something to wash my clothes. Um... I'll take... eenie... meenie... minie... moe... THAT ONE!

The Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook is designed to help answer a lot of the questions a consumer might have about purchasing a front load washer as well as provide information and tips for getting the most out of your machine. If you just can't figure out which machine is best for you after reading the Resource Tool Kit, find out about the company's return policies. Some companies will allow a short trial time. If so, try the machine, use it heavily and then decide if it will work for you, before the trial time is over.

11 Bonus mistake! Who needs a service contract?

Isn't the manufacturers warranty good enough?

Here is where many people get stung hard! Some manufacturers have very specific terms regarding warranty work and how to get it. Most local repair or "Mom and Pop" shops will not do warranty work because of the manufacturers unyielding rules. Any clerical error will cause the claim to be denied leaving the service company unpaid. So most independent shops will not bother with these claims and that leaves the user stuck with a broken machine.

Some companies offer a "service contract" at the time of purchasing the machine. There is a vast difference between an "extended warranty" and a "service contract" so make sure you understand it! Usually the "service contract" will trump the manufacturers warranty and you'll get much faster service.

Check out the warranty very carefully (the Stinky Front Load Washing Machine eBook will help you do that) before making your purchase.

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